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Today

*The Newsletter of
Missouri Technology Student Association
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2003-2004 State Officer Leadership Team



Your State Officer Team is charged up for an exciting and Conference. They have planned a great program to include all Missouri TSA chapters in a statewide effort for community service project that will be both educational and rewarding.

This Team is committed to giving their best to make this the best year ever for Missouri TSA.

Laura McGowan.....President
Kevin Brackett.....Vice President
Laine Shay.....Secretary
Vacant.....Treasurer
Rachel Cook.....Reporter
Denton Berry.....Sergeant-at-Arms

District Representatives

Erica Conner.....District # 1
Chris Smith.....District # 2
Vacant.....District # 3
R.J. Weiman.....District # 4
John LeCoque.....District # 5
Janay Andrews.....District # 6
Derik Herman.....District # 7
John Westbrook.....District # 8
Blake Cahill.....District # 9

“Be A TSA Member”

You are encouraged to contact your State Officer Team members to share ideas or suggestions that will help TSA grow in Missouri.

President's Message

Hello Missouri TSA! State Conference is approaching pretty quickly this year! I hope everyone is looking forward to it as much as I am. Your State Officer team just finished their final meeting of this year and they are extremely pumped for State Conference. This year is flying by so fast! Already state officer candidates for the 2004 - 2005 school year have been interviewed. I would like to wish each candidate the best of luck! Keep in mind, Missouri TSA; you get the chance to cast your vote for your chosen candidate at the business meeting. Good luck to everyone in his or her competitive events! Hopefully your projects are coming along well! I know Missouri will be handed several trophies at nationals! Just a reminder to keep recruiting new members, the year is not over yet!

Good luck on raising money for the American Cancer Society! I know each chapter can easily sell \$100.00 worth of bags. Just think, that is only twenty bags! The Missouri TSA State Officer team has chosen the American Cancer Society as the State Service Project, because this is a great cause to give too!

Seniors, keep in mind that your time in TSA is running out! If you would like to become alumni next year, let me know. You will be able to sign up at state conference!

Best of Luck,
Laura McGowan,
Missouri TSA State President

Alumni

Anyone who wants to become alumni need to e-mail their name and e-mail address, school, graduation year, and chapter advisor's name to Missouri TSA State Advisor. This applies to all graduating seniors. We need a strong alumni chapter.

2003-2004 Community Service Project

Something new will be happening this year at the 2004 TSA State Conference! In place of the usual mixer, Missouri TSA has teamed up with Relay for Life to help raise money for the fight against cancer!

A mini Relay for Life will be taking place at the indoor track at Central Missouri State University, Multi Purpose Building Gym floor on Friday night at 7:30 p.m. The state officer team is challenging TSA members to raise money for this walk.

In order to raise money, there will be games played throughout the evening. Please bring extra money with you, so you can take part in the games. There will be some competition between the Board of Directors. You may want to bring your camera!

We are challenging chapters to raise money ahead of time for Relay for Life. We are asking each chapter to sell luminaries bags and bring the money to the state conference to donate to Relay for Life.

Attached is a copy of the forms for the bags along with a flyer. Please make as many copies as you need to advertise this event! Our goal for each chapter is to raise \$100.00! The chapter selling the most bags will receive a prize! Let's help find a cure for this disease!



TSA State Leadership and Career Development Conference

Important Facts To Know About This Year's Conference!

"TSA - Visualizing the Next 25 Years of Excellence"

The date of State Conference is April 1-3, 2004 at Central Missouri State University, Multipurpose Building on the west side of the campus.

Registration is from 4-6 p.m. on Thursday. Opening ceremony is Thursday evening. Officer elections will be held at the General Assembly Friday morning.

Only the school s whose TSA chapters have completed and received their official charter will be eligible to vote and run for office. Please notify your members about this prior to state conference. Also, if your school is in the process of chartering, they must be mailed to Mr. Miller our State Advisor on or before March 1, 2004 at 4:00 p.m.

In addition, any awards that students are applying for need to be mailed to Mr. Miller on or before March 1, 2004 at 4:00 p.m. Those awards include Chapter Excellence, Achievement Awards Silver and Gold, Technology Honor Society, Star Recognition Award, Advisor of the Year, and LCDP Awards known as the Academic, Scholar, and Collegiate. You can find the forms you need on our website at http://dese.mo.gov/divcareered//tsa_recognition.htm.

A Special Opportunity for Missouri TSA Chapters to Receive Their Charter at Conference

This is an opportunity for all Missouri TSA Chapters who have not completed their Chartering and received their Official Missouri TSA Charter signed by the Commissioner of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, TSA State President and your Missouri TSA State Advisor. The following information is copied directly from the Missouri TSA website and it provides you with the details involved in completing the entire process of chartering your chapter.

The charter application process is an exciting moment which benchmarks the first steps of achievement in your chapter's historical pilgrimage toward excellence in Leadership. Please read these guidelines carefully to ensure that your chapter application is processed correctly and in a timely manner. You can find information at http://dese.mo.gov/divcareered//tsa_official_charter_info.htm

Application Process

- The following steps are in accordance with the Missouri TSA Bylaws, Articles of Incorporation , Article III, Sections 1-11. These steps are designed to guide you through the application process and requirements:
Adopt local chapter bylaws. (Use Fill-in Form for Chapter Bylaws, see link below.)

- Prepare a list of local chapter members or a roster for the current year who support the application for an official charter.
- Prepare a list of your local chapter officers for the current year.
- Send a copy of your local chapter approved roster to the **State Advisor ONLY** along with a copy of your completed official application form and the \$20 processing fee.



Sample Chapter Bylaws Fill-in Form



Official Charter Application

Presentation Ceremony

Plan to make the awarding of your Official Charter a celebration opportunity for your TSA chapter. The presentation of the official charter certificate will be made by the Missouri TSA State Advisor and one of the Missouri TSA State Officers. (the official charter certificate is an 11" x 17" document framed, matted, and signed by the Missouri Commissioner of Education)

Once you have received the approved charter application you will need to contact to set a date for your local chapter's charter celebration ceremony. The ideal celebration event would involve sending professional invitations to all the members, parents, advisors, faculty, administrators, counselors, community supporters, **legislators** and others you consider part of your local TSA family.

You will want to contact the local newspaper and media station for coverage of the celebration event. Plan a short agenda and invite one or two of your local students to briefly describe the organization and its purpose. Suggestions for the celebration event:

- Provide a guest book for all guests to sign as they arrive
- Allow your chapter officers to demonstrate the Opening Ceremony
- Welcome
- Introduction of special guests
- Provide a description of the organization and its purposes
- Describe how the organization will serve its members for the future
- Highlight some of the success of the chapter
- Charter presentation
- Refreshments served to all of the guests following the ceremony
- **Plan to send thank you letters to all guests within the first week following the celebration event**



Charter Program Template

LCDP (Leadership Connections Degree Program)



Welcome to the *Leadership Connections Degree Program* of Missouri TSA. You are about to embark on a journey with TSA that will connect you with the effective communication skills, self-confidence, and poise to be a leader. TSA can open many doors to exciting opportunities for you and your classmates as you accept the challenge in becoming a better leader through leadership training in TSA. How far you go in the future will be your own determination and motivation.

This program is designed to assist each participant in preparing for leadership in your Local TSA Chapter or State TSA Association and for those of you who aspire for greater things, aim at becoming a National TSA Officer. This program is divided into three degrees of achievement that must be obtained in respective order as follows:

- **1st Degree - Basic Degree "Leadership Award"** (earned by attending the Annual Missouri TSA Fall Leadership Connections Conference and completing all the requirements for the award)
- **2nd Degree - "Academic"**
- **3rd Degree - "Collegiate"**

4th Degree - "Scholar"

You are encouraged to work at your own pace while preparing for the exam that is required for each respective degree. Your local chapter advisor at his or her discretion will administer the written exam(s). In addition, you will need to keep accurate records of your achievements, including appropriate signatures where required to receive the award and degree. The awarding of the appropriate degree will be presented during the Annual Fall Leadership Connections Conference. You must achieve at least 85% mastery or higher of the content to be an eligible recipient for the respective award. You can find information at

http://dese.mo.gov/divcareered//tsa_lcdp.htm

Interesting Facts

The following interesting facts were copied from The Useless Facts Website at <http://www.angelfire.com/ca6/uselessfacts/>

Outside the USA, Ireland is the largest software producing country in the world.

The first fossilized specimen of Australopithecus afarensis was named Lucy after the paleontologists' favorite song "Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds," by the Beatles.

Figlet, an ASCII font converter program, stands for Frank, Ian and Glenn's Letters.

Every human spent about half an hour as a single cell.

Every year about 98% of atoms in your body are replaced.

Hot water is heavier than cold.

Plutonium - first weighed on August 20th, 1942, by University of Chicago scientists Glenn Seaborg and his colleagues - was the first man-made element.

If you went out into space, you would explode before you suffocated because there's no air pressure.

The radioactive substance, Americium - 241 is used in many smoke detectors.

The original IBM-PCs, that had hard drives, referred to the hard drives as Winchester drives. This is due to the fact that the original Winchester drive had a model number of 3030. This is, of course, a Winchester firearm.

Sound travels 15 times faster through steel than through the air.

Only one satellite has been ever been destroyed by a meteor: the European Space Agency's Olympus in 1993.

Starch is used as a binder in the production of paper. It is the use of a starch coating that controls ink penetration when printing. Cheaper papers do not use as much starch, and this is why your elbows get black when you are leaning over your morning paper.

A ball of glass will bounce higher than a ball of rubber. A ball of solid steel will bounce higher than one made entirely of glass.

A chip of silicon a quarter-inch square has the capacity of the original 1949 ENIAC computer, which occupied a city block.



The mission of the Missouri Technology Student Association is to prepare our membership for the challenges of a dynamic world by promoting technological literacy, leadership, and problem solving, resulting in personal growth and opportunities. (Adapted from the National TSA Mission)

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205 Jefferson Street
P.O. Box 480
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Phone: (573) 751-7764
Fax: (573) 526-4261
http://dese.mo.gov/divcareered//teched_mo_tsa.htm

State Advisor

W. Douglas Miller

Reviewing Editor

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Missouri TSA State Officers

Laura McGowan, Adrian HS, President
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